GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2705
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2007
ROAD TRANSPORT ACT
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Patil Shri Shriniwas Dadasaheb;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to enact a new Road Transport Act in place of the Carriers Act, 1965;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith provisions therein;

(c) whether any working group has been constituted in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the time by which the said Act is likely to be enacted?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) The Carriage by Road Act, 2007 has been notified in the Gazette of India on 1.10.07 which would replace the Carriers Act, 1865.

(b) The Act has 22 Sections covering various aspects such as mandatory registration of common carriers, liability aspects of common carrier, requirement of goods forwarding notes and goods receipts, scope for an agreement between the consignor and the common carrier for transportation of the consignment at a higher risk rate in return for higher liability, empowering common carrier to dispose of the consignment to recover its dues in the event of failure of the consignee to take the delivery of the consignment, requirement of insurance for transportation of hazardous/dangerous goods, force majeure provision to exonerate common carrier from his liabilities under certain circumstances, penalty for violating the provisions of the Act etc.

(c)&(d) A working group under the chairmanship of Shri S.K. Dash, Joint Secretary(Transport), Department of Road Transport & Highways has been constituted on 15.11.07 for the purpose of framing of rules under the Carriage by Road Act, 2007. The working group has been asked to submit its report within a period of 6 months.

(e) Keeping in view the procedural requirements involved in the framing of rules under the Act, it is not possible to envisage a specific date for enforcement of the Act at this stage.